

Harmon, Fitz Offer Co-op Plan

Set Sights Anew, Rank Suggests

"Film producers both in Hollywood and England must learn to look, not backward to the good old days of 1939, but rather must start looking forward to the good new days of 1949," J. Arthur Rank said last week.

J. Arthur Rank, noted British (Continued on Page 3)

Short Shows Big In United States

Exhibitors are finding a new source of income in the short subject package show. This applies to both single and double feature situations. RKO Theatres has adopted this policy in some 40 theatres in the metropolitan area of New York and theatres

(Continued on Page 8)

Government Reps Hear Progress Report At Ottawa Luncheon

An initial and concrete progress report on Hollywood's plan of co-operation toward the alleviation of Canada's USA currency problem, was outlined in Ottawa last week to Right Honorable C. D. Howe by J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corporation, and Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association of America.

Sask'n Passes Up The Tax Grab

The Province of Saskatchewan will not enter the amusement tax field if vacated by the federal government but it is possible that municipalities may do so, it was stated in Regina recently by Provincial Treasurer Fines.

In the Ontario legislature, C. H. Taylor, CCF member from Temiskaming, said that in view of the \$25 million surplus reimposition of the amusement tax is not justified.

He doubted that Ottawa would relinquish it under these conditions.

Paul Courtney Is Variety Steward

Chief steward of the impressive quarters of Toronto's Variety Club in the Prince George Hotel will be Paul Courtney, a much-travelled, many-sided gentleman who is an author and lecturer on subjects related to his work and has even been a movie actor.

(Continued on Page 3)

Contest Extended

International Films has extended the closing date of its Canadian "T-Men" campaign contest to May 30th from April 15th.

Pix Pioneers Named Industry 'Senate'

Canadian Picture Pioneers of the Ontario district held their first get-together at a smoker in the King Edward Hotel last week and heard President the Hon. J. Earl Lawson, KC, describe the organization as the senate of the Dominion motion picture industry in welcoming those present.

The Pioneers, he said, was organized eight years ago and enjoyed fraternal relations with the American body without being directly connected. Its purpose was friendship and mutual help, he said.

Following the initiation of 27 (Continued on Page 3)

Foundation Started

Work has started on the foundation for Theatre Holding's 900-seat \$75,000 theatre in Smith Falls, Ontario.

United Amusement Net Profit Up

United Amusement Corp., Limited, for the year ending Jan. 3rd, 1948, reported a net profit of \$262,511, equal to \$3.25 a share on 80,829 no par value shares outstanding. This compares with the net \$254,899 or \$3.15 a share for the year ended Dec. 31, 1946.

Gross income for the period was \$1,494,384 as against \$1,535,098 in the previous year. Current assets totalled \$361,349 and current liabilities \$206,520, indicating net working capital of \$154,829.



Esther Ghan of Toronto, who won second prize in the "Carnegie Hall" musical scholarship contest, smiles as C. S. Chaplin, Canadian general manager of United Artists, presents her with a cheque for \$300. Larry Stephens, ad-pub chief, looks on.

Miss Ghan won her place from hundreds of singers in the United States and Canada, it was announced by a New York panel of judges consisting of Ezio Pinza and Rise Stevens of the Metropolitan Opera and Boris Morros, producer of the film.

12 BIG WEEKS TORONTO

7 GREAT WEEKS VANCOUVER

NOW! VICTORIA HOLDS 'QUIET WEEKEND' 2nd WEEK

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'OCTOBER MAN'
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'THIS MODERN AGE'
 TO COMPLETE YOUR PROGRAM

Paul Courtney Is Variety Steward

(Continued from Page 1)

He has worked in almost all the capitals of the world at the art of making life more enjoyable for others, his chief distinction to date having been earned as one of those who accompanied Their Majesties across Canada during the royal visit. He provided brief personal attendance for the Queen at Banff and later wrote the story of the trip for the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Born in London, England, in 1905, Courtney was educated at St. Joseph's College, Blackheath, and began his career in a Pall Mall Club. His experiences after that should make him feel thoroughly at home with showfolk and they with him, for he became a page boy at the Playgoers' Club, Leicester Square.

After that he was personal page to Marie Lohr, who was visited frequently by the great theatrical figures of the day, among them Sarah Bernhardt, Leslie Henson and Sir Gerald du Maurier. Having been exposed to actors and authors early, the influence keeps cropping up in his life. Some years ago he appeared in the British film, "Marry Me," with George Robey and Margaret Muehler.

In 1947 Paul toured the larger cities of Ontario under the auspices of the Wine Producers Association, lecturing on wines and bar services. His articles on the same subjects will also do much to introduce graceful ways of life into many homes in this comparatively new country.

In pursuit of happiness through his favorite occupation Paul Courtney had nine trips around the world during 15 years of travelling over all the continents, oceans and what lies between. Now and then he liked a place and stayed. For suggesting changes in the layout of the wine cellar of Emperor Haile Sellassie he was given a solid gold ankle chain by the royal chamberlain. Since there was no ball attached, he continued his travels.

His Canadian adventures took him into our leading hotels as the country's only wine butler, into the naval service for three years as a service messman, and into chain and single restaurant management and catering supervision for commercial enterprises such as the Victory Aircraft, Murray's and the Canadian Railway News Company.

With his feeling for relating his experiences in print and orally, it is natural that he should have been a valet-tutor. He officiated at the farewell dinner to Lord and Lady Willingdon

Re-set Trade Sights Rank Suggests

(Continued from Page 1)

film leader, made this statement in Rochester where he is the guest of Gen. E. P. Curtis, wartime chief of staff for the USA strategic air forces in Europe and vice-president of Eastman Kodak Company.

"I cannot subscribe to any thinking which expects to retrogress to a 1939 economy in a world which is changing as fast as newspapers can print their headlines," Rank said. "In England, we have been faced with grim realities of life for so long that we have developed an ability to face facts. We have found we must adjust to the new world, whether we like it or not and that we must succeed in the future, not rest on past successes. We will do just that."

"I found in Hollywood many who agree with this philosophy for a better future despite a sharply reduced film economy. These producers know that fine films will appeal to audiences everywhere and are concentrating on the best pictures possible."

As for British films in America, Rank said:

"Henceforth under the new tax

Odeon Theatres Re-elects Officers

Officers and directors of Odeon Theatres of Canada Limited have been re-elected as follows at the annual meeting of the company in Toronto: J. Arthur Rank, chairman; Hon. J. Earl Lawson, KC, president; John Davis, D.C. Coleman, J. S. Duncan, Leonard W. Brockington, KC, George W. Peters and H. P. Green directors. Messrs. Brockington and Peters are vice-presidents. Alan Robinette is secretary and Gerald Sprague, treasurer.

when the former was to leave for India as viceroy.

Paul Courtney is a personable gentleman who should add distinction to the atmosphere of the Variety quarters, as well as comfort and enjoyment. Although much of his time is spent in a non-family atmosphere he is nevertheless a good family man with five children.

settlement between the British government and Messrs. Eric Johnston and James Mulvey representing the American film industry, every dollar earned in America for British films goes to Hollywood. It is a double challenge to my producers in England to continue to make films which will give American, as well as British, Canadian and other audiences, great happiness. Second, it is a great challenge to the entire American film industry to get behind and really put them over in the United States.

"Hollywood's revenues hereafter depend much upon the success of our British films in the American theatres."

Rank was accompanied by his two American representatives, Robert S. Benjamin, president, and J. B. L. Lawrence, vice-president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Inc. He spoke later in the week in Philadelphia before an audience of 3,000 persons in the Philadelphia Forum.

Architect Readies Plans For Theatres

H. H. Simmonds, Vancouver architect, is readying plans for two new BC houses.

Drawings for Pepper Brothers' 350-seat theatre in Alert Bay are completed and call for an approximate outlay of \$20,000. Work will be by day labor.

Nearly finished are the plans for G. A. Gough's 450-seat house in Keremeos. It, too, will be constructed by day labor and will be the second there — the other being Gough's Community Theatre seating 200.

Dewey McCourt To Manage Drive-in

The new Starlite Drive-in theatre, situated two miles from Niagara Falls and due to open late this month, will be managed by Dewey L. McCourt. He now operates the Brock, Niagara-on-the-Lake, and managed the Palace, St. Catharines, Ontario, for four years prior to that.

The drive-in will handle 750 cars with In-a-Car speakers, which have individual volume control. Dominion Sound Equipments set up projection.

Pioneers Named Industry 'Senate'

(Continued from Page 1)

new members, who were presented with their cards by Vice-President Ben Cronk, Mr. Lawson called for 30 seconds of silence in tribute to brethren who had passed on.

Chief item of entertainment was a series of boxing bouts staged by the boys of Police K Club, a Kiwanis project. This was followed by the Commodores, an old-time quartette, and the Louie Romanelli musical trio. The food and drinks were of the same excellent quality. Len Bishop headed the entertainment committee.

Visiting Pioneers were Jack Butler of Moncton and Harry Bercovitch of Regina.

Bill Reeves and Bill Travers won praise from the president for their part in the membership drive.

New members inducted were: J. H. Coleman, Harry Sherman, Hans Tiesler, Albert E. Sutton, Louis Schierholtz, Zeke Scheine, Thomas Sharp, Lionel Lester, Edgar Shields, Harry Jarman, Frank Fisher, Roy O'Connor, George Rutherford, Samuel R. Mantle, Albert E. Sanderson, George F. Law, Albert F. Hope, William G. McCaul, William O. Widget, Fred S. Jackson, Charles Laidlaw, William H. Mulholland, Robert W. Smith, Irving Cohen, Jack Roher, Leo Bloom and Bert-ram J. Bach.

Warners Buys Novel

Warners has purchased Jerry Gruskin's "The Octopus and Miss Smith."



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RELEASE FOR

APRIL

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NATIONAL FILM BOARD PRODUCTION
Distributed by
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ECHOES and REFLECTIONS

Smart Movie Man

(From the Vancouver News Herald)

Donald Gordon, deputy governor of the Bank of Canada, has announced in Washington that United States moving picture companies are planning to make and show films describing the attractions of Canada as a vacation land.

U.S. film producers are making this move voluntarily to help encourage greater movement of U.S. tourists to Canada. In taking this step the movie men are smart — they know what happened to U.S. film exports to Britain when Britain's shortage of U.S. dollars became acute, and they don't want anything like that to happen in Canada.

By donating their talents and facilities to the production of "seeing Canada" films, they can create good-will toward their industry and at the same time give Canada invaluable publicity.

Also, from Washington comes news of California Representative B. W. Gearhart's bill in the House to raise to \$500, from the present \$100, the value of purchases abroad that U.S. tourists may take home duty free. The Gearhart bill would permit a larger expenditure by U.S. tourists on Canadian goods.

Canadians, reading of these proposals, cannot help but wonder when they are going to be able to enjoy such travel and customs privileges in the U.S. again.

Ross Ford Cast

Ross Ford has been cast by Columbia in the male lead opposite Gloria Jean in "Sweetheart of the Blues."

WB Pacts Hitchcock

Warner Brothers recently signed Alfred Hitchcock to a long-term deal as writer-producer, effective January 1st, 1949.

Windsor May Raise Theatre Taxation

Windsor Police Commission will decide at its next meeting the type and amount of theatre taxation for the next year. Present rate is \$50 for theatres of up to 600 seats and \$100 for those with more.

A proposal before the Commission would raise the tax to \$100 for those now paying \$50 and those paying \$100 would have to pay \$250 in future. A second proposal was that a flat per seat annual rate of 25 cents be charged.

A delegation of theatre men appeared at the meeting and protested any change. The Commission reached no decision but was inclined to stay with the old form of taxation and would likely increase it. Information would be sought from other urban centres in the province as to their form of taxation.

Alterations Planned For Loew's, Mont'l

Plans are being prepared for approximately \$100,000 worth of alterations to the 2,853-seat Loew's Theatre, in Montreal, operated by Famous Players.

Changes call for a new ventilating system, alterations to heating system and some alterations to the theatre itself.

J. ARTHUR RANK
Presents

The OCTOBER MAN

A fascinating thriller with a surprise climax packed with suspense.

Starring

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JOAN GREENWOOD
Joyce Carey
Edward Chapman
Kay Walsh
Catherine Lacey
Adrienne Allen

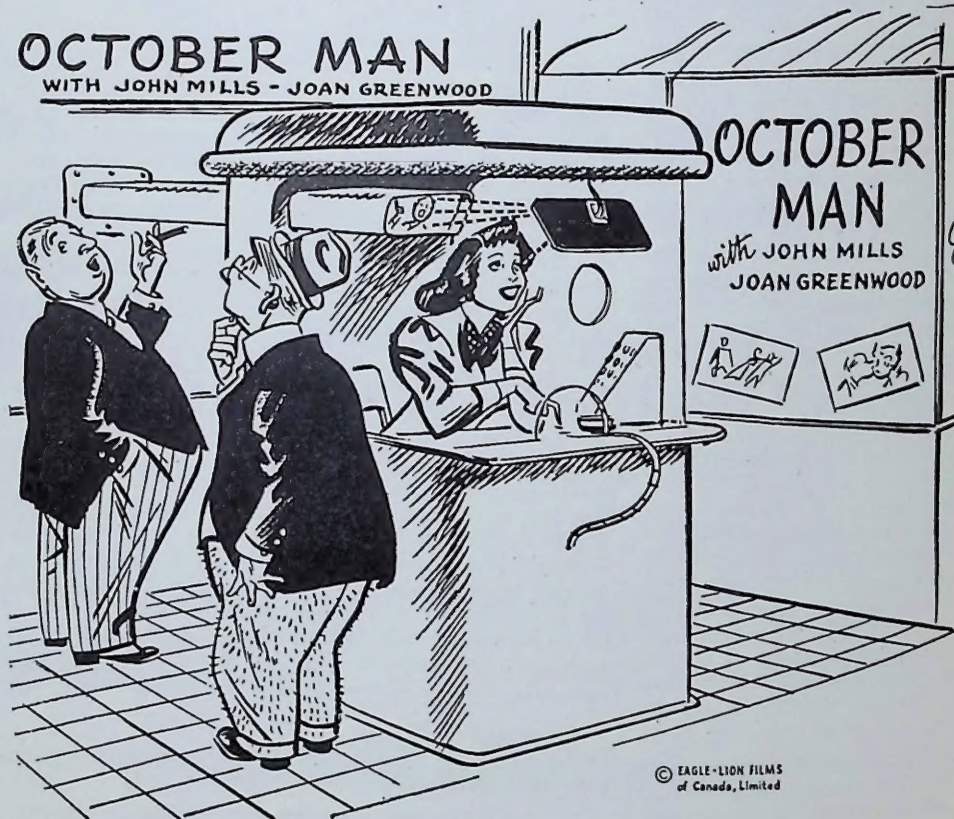
Written and produced by
ERIC AMBLER

Directed by ROY BAKER

It's a problem!

OCTOBER MAN

WITH JOHN MILLS - JOAN GREENWOOD



"She never saw a movie in her life till we played John Mills in 'So Well Remembered'. Now unless she has this mirror arrangement she'll quit!"

High Wall

with Robert Taylor, Audrey Totter,
Herbert Marshall

MGM 99 Mins.

GOOD DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT BET DELIVERS SUSPENSE, EXCITEMENT: WELL PLAYED.

Combining elements of the whodunit with lucid details of a psychiatric nature, "High Wall" comes off an interesting dramatic entertainment for the adult audience division. It is effectively played off in sound measures by an extremely capable cast.

It is a murder story before it tackles mental derangement. The audience soon becomes aware of the identity of the killer. The others in the cast have to build a case and make him talk. This is a rather varied approach to the style. Here it is a good thing.

Taylor, it is brought out, has been charged with the murder of his wife. She was found dead in her boss' apartment. The circumstances are peculiar and this arouses interest in the case for Audrey Totter, a psychiatrist. Taylor was injured in the war. He underwent a head operation. Later there was more surgery. Unable to remember very much about the night his wife was done in, Taylor, because of his young son, undergoes another operation under Miss Totter's advice. This does not help.

"Narco-Synthesis" is introduced into the script. After much persuasion Taylor submits to it and the real dirt on the death of his wife comes out. Technically Taylor is in prison but he manages to get out a couple of times and what with one angle and another that requires investigation, he begins to see the true light of things.

Along about here Herbert Marshall begins to plan a trip to Mexico. Seems there has been some prowling in his flat. But Taylor, the prison officials "know," has been under lock and key. That is up until the very end. He gets out again, meets Miss Totter. Together they get hold of Marshall, shoot him full of the narco-synthesis. He talks. The cops are handy and take it all down.

CAST: Robert Taylor, Audrey Totter, Herbert Marshall, Dorothy Patrick, H. B. Warner, Warner Anderson, Moroni Olsen.

CREDITS: Producer, Robert Lord; Director, Curtis Bernhardt; Screenplay, Sydney Boehm, Lester Cole; Suggested by a story by Alan R. Clark, Bradbury Foote; Photography, Paul Vogel.

DIRECTION, Very Good, PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

The Bishop's Wife

with Cary Grant, Loretta Young, David Niven, Monty Woolley

Goldwyn-RKO

108 Mins.

TO KING PUBLIC'S TASTE, THIS GOLDWYN PRODUCTION IS ROYAL ENTERTAINMENT EXPERTLY FASHIONED INTO BOXOFFICE FARE OF GREAT PROMISE.

In England, last year, "The Bishop's Wife" was the Command Performance picture. On this side of the Atlantic, it will be the Demand Performance film.

The patron commands, Sam Goldwyn delivers, yet again.

All the charm, fantasy, tenderness, warmth, humor, humanity and imagination originally inherent in Robert Nathan's novel was subtly, thoroughly and skillfully captured in the cinematic translation. It is a splendid job, directorially, that Henry Koster has turned in. Gregg Toland's photographic direction captures action, word, scene, locales and magic of the story.

There have been a number of first rate offerings in the recent past that have lifted the film into a new realm of production accomplishment and "The Bishop's Wife" can move right in on the list for par values.

The currents that spell boxoffice magnetism which strongly pervade "The Bishop's Wife" testimonially reflect many varied and expert talents recruited by Goldwyn to fashion the fine end result. The distinguished cast — leads, support, character and minor bit players — are all seen in inspired interpretations of their calling. Their's was the task — firmly accomplished — of packing comedy, emotion, drama and the like into the Robert E. Sherwood-Leonardo Bercovici script. What unreels is a rich experience, the kind that hits the spectator right behind the eyeballs and only prevents the flow of tears because the tide of dramatic events is controlled by injecting a light note at the right time.

Nathan's novel deals with the arrival on Earth of an angel named "Dudley." "Dudley" is the answer to the prayer of Bishop David Niven who is confused, bewildered, at wit's end about erection of an imposing cathedral to be financed by Gladys Cooper. She wants it to be first a memorial to her departed husband, then an edifice dedicated to God.

Just before Christmas, Cary Grant, the Angel "Dudley," appears on the scene and enrolls himself as Niven's assistant. His angelic demeanor and ingratiating charm prevail upon Loretta Young, Niven's wife, and young Carolyn Grimes, their daughter. Also coming under his influence is Monty Woolley, a frustrated professor of Roman history, long planning a book but never quite inspired to execute the performance of the writing task it implies.

Only playing his supernatural cards when the occasion warrants, Grant, after a hectic start, soon has the Niven household humming with an intense atmosphere of happiness and content from the mistress on down to the domestic staff. Exception is Niven who evinces resentment and jealousy.

The workings of the angelic Grant's mystical powers from time to time will give vent to spontaneous joy on the part of the audience. These take various forms which are only capable of portrayal in terms of cinematography.

Grant prevails upon Miss Cooper, after learning the true condition of her feeling for her late spouse, to apply her fortune to building adequate housing for the poor of the community and otherwise spreading it around noble works.

He leaves Niven a happy man. Once more intensely in love with his wife whom he has been neglecting. Grant, it seems, has fallen in love with Miss Young, and angels just don't do that. His assignment ended, Grant is called back to celestial headquarters for a new assignment. The story closes on an impressive note of understanding by all concerned.

CAST: Cary Grant, Loretta Young, David Niven, Monty Woolley, James Gleason, Gladys Cooper, Elsa Lanchester, Sara Haden, Carolyn Grimes, Tito Vuolo, Regis Toomey, Sara Edwards, Ann O'Neil, Margaret McWade, Ben Erway.

CREDITS: Produced by Samuel Goldwyn; Directed by Henry Koster; Screenplay by Robert E. Sherwood, Leonardo Bercovici; From the novel by Robert Nathan; Photography, Gregg Toland.

DIRECTION, Superb.

PHOTOGRAPHY, Superb.

Panhandle

with Rod Cameron, Cathy Downs,
Reed Hadley, Anne Gwynne,
Blake Edwards

Monogram

85 Mins.

TIGHTLY PACED MELODRAMA EXCELLENTLY PHOTOGRAPHED IN SEPIA HIGHLIGHTED BY SENSATIONAL FIGHT FOOTAGE.

This offering, which marks the debut of John C. Champion and Blake Edwards as producers, is highlighted by one of the most sensational fights the screen has known. Rod Cameron, one of the stars, and Jeff York are the participants.

In addition to producing, Champion and Edwards wrote the original screenplay, and Edwards also played one of the five starring roles. Lesley Selander, no newcomer to western films, turned in an excellent job of directing.

Reed Hadley and Cathy Downs, formerly under contract to 20th-Fox, and Anne Gwynne, who was with Universal, are among those starred. Cinematographer Harry Neumann has caught some eye-filling backgrounds and the picture is in sepia tone.

Cameron, a reformed two-gun-man, who operated a harness shop, learns of the murder of his brother, who has been publishing a reform paper at Sentinel, Texas. He loses no time in reaching Sentinel, determined to avenge the death of his brother.

Hadley, a gambling hall proprietor, runs the town, and comely Anne Gwynne is his secretary. One of Hadley's customers is murdered in a card game, and Cameron seeks out Hadley.

Edwards and two other Hadley henchmen try to shoot down Cameron, but are too slow on the trigger. Hadley also meets the same fate as his men, and Anne falls in love with Cameron.

CAST: Rod Cameron, Cathy Downs, Reed Hadley, Anne Gwynne, Blake Edwards, Dick Crockett, Rory Mallinson, Charles Judels.

CREDITS: Champion Production. Producers, John C. Champion and Blake Edwards; Director, Lesley Selander; Authors and Screenplay, Champion and Edwards; Cameraman, Harry Neumann.

DIRECTION, Excellent. PHOTOGRAPHY, Very Good.

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The Magic of Melody

Outside of knowledge itself, I would say that the richest heritage of each succeeding generation is music. For those of us who are not armoured with a fine fatalism when contemplating that eternal perplexity, the riddle of existence, the invisible and universal sedative that is music protects us against the unhappy results of too many unanswered questions. It takes the pain out of the puzzlement.

The common effect of long familiar music is to stir the listener to sentimental retrospection. Indeed, my first inclination to write about this came when I listened to a blind man playing a violin on the street one wintry evening. The talent of this public serenader was obvious to the ear as he played, moving along the edge of the sidewalk sideways, a step at a time.

The piece he was playing caused me to stop and listen and the music soon transferred me mentally out of the swirling snow and into the sunny clime of California in 1935. Before that year I had long been haunted by this song but never knew its name nor remembered all of it.

When I had my first look at Los Angeles, not the movie studios but the gay and robust quarter of its previous owners, the Mexicans, interested me most. Here I noticed that the song which played hide-and-seek with me often reached into the street from different stores. I was also attracted by a certain Spanish phrase which appeared on quite a few of the shop windows. The very sound of that phrase was music too.

I had come to Los Angeles to visit an older brother whom I hadn't seen since he went there after serving in the Canadian army during the first World War. His most prized semi-tropical possession was a ten-year-old son named David who usually sang as he fashioned his model aeroplanes.

One day I heard the boy humming the song that I was to hear years later played by the blind fiddler in accompaniment to the hurrying crowd and the falling snow. I asked him to sing it and he did:

Where are you going, lonely little swallow?
Your wings are weary, you have flown so far.
I too am lonely. Would'st that I might follow
Your flight to where my friends and loved ones are.

It was a Mexican folk song learned at school and the name of it, David explained, was "La Golondrino." That is, "The Swallow." The swallow is the bird world's common citizen and loved by Mexicans. "La Golondrino" — say it to yourself. Is it not music? For that was the phrase on the shop windows.

Many Americans of Mexican descent live closely together in one of the meanest quarters of the brightest and largest city of what was a century ago the land of their fathers. Then it was the centre of the community. In the state which supplanted theirs they are not all its happiest citizens.

Seeing them under these conditions, one sometimes felt that they were the descendants of the disinherited, living in crowded exile in their own country.

Perhaps that is why they love the swallow so and sing of its envied flight.

* * *

There is another song that brings back swallows to me.

Once, when I was a small boy living in the ragamuffin realm in which immigrant families first settled when they came to Toronto, I felt ill. Not physically but overpowered by a longing for trees and grass, like those that could be seen on Toronto Island, a mile across the water at the end of our street, where the bay washed the feet of the city. Something like that instead of the hot pavement of the smelly street where I lay, looking upward.

My mother's anxious enquiries I answered with a plea for that green fairyland. She laughed a little sadly and, reassured, left me. No time for that. As I lay there I saw a flock of swallows flying high in the cloudless sky. The music of a hurdy-gurdy, released by the wheeling arm of a moustached Italian, came to my ears as I watched the flight of the birds.

The song, I learned years later, was "Santa Lucia," an Italian boat song. And even now, when I hear it, as often as not my

More Reading Matter

John Rodney, in WB's "Key Largo," is Raymond John Flynn of Bear River, NS . . . The staff club of 20th Century Theatres held its annual party at the Fiesta Room of the Prince George Hotel recently . . . An article in the Peterborough Examiner telling of peep show movies says that "For five cents, at the expense of a stiff neck, you could see the complete story of the North West Rebellion right down to the sordid hanging of Louis Riel in the Regina Barracks of the Royal North West Mounted Police." Those pictures would be valuable historical records today . . . The New Play Society's "Spring Thaw," featuring the best talent hereabouts, gave plenty of room for the talents of Jane Mallett, who is certainly one of America's top mimes. Although Hollywood got quite a ribbing, it would have been a profitable evening for a talent scout . . . I'm on my way to Variety's Miami convention, which accounts for the type of reading matter in this issue.

mind goes back to a boy stretched out on a burning pavement and swallows moving swiftly against a cloudless sky.

* * *

Years ago a group of youths, among them myself, used to spend the summer camping on the shore of the Humber, about 12 miles from the western limits of the city.

The other tent in our part of the valley was that of two brothers from a nearby village. The older one was learning to play the guitar and the piece he twanged constantly was "Aloha." He was a pleasant lad and when he died suddenly of a heart attack we were awed by the visit of Death so near, for we knew little of it at that age.

The next day one of those who frequented the camp placed a wreath of new leaves, gathered in his beloved valley, on one of the flaps of the tent. As I passed along the trail the wind blew the other flap away. There, resting on his cot, was the guitar, now forever stilled of his music.

And so that song and that scene are one in my recollections.

* * *

Travelling by bus can be an interesting experience if you are caged in with nice folks. I was returning that way after my first visit to Los Angeles. My companion was John Snetsinger, whose Hollywood scribbles were then featured in the Toronto Star Weekly. We shared our cubicle with a New York lady, poetic and persistent, and a lass from Nashville who insisted that all uncomplimentary comment about the South was libel.

After a while the porter ushered in a young Englishman as the fifth member of our menagerie. He introduced himself as Graham Goss — of the London Mirror, I believe. Been doing Hollywood and the States, y'know.

We discovered soon enough that our newest recruit was companionable and slightly musical. He was obsessed with a new British song called "Red Sails in the Sunset" and all he knew of it were the first two lines. Nothing served to bring forth a third line or caused him to forget the first two.

I think I shall not easily forget the impressive panorama that is the United States and its scenic jewels, such as the Painted Desert, the Petrified Forest, the mighty Mississippi and the endless garden of sunflowers that is Kansas.

Nor shall I forget that four-hour interlude in Kansas City, at which point Graham abandoned us, perhaps forever, and his fond but forlorn farewell — all of us being in various stages of fermentation.

I hope if Graham ever reads this he will forgive me. But in my memories of the trip there will always be, in conspicuous relief, Mr. Goss of London and the first two lines of "Red Sails in the Sunset." And it is my desperate wish that, should we ever meet again after what his part of the world has been through, Graham will have within his conquering grasp the rest of that song.

* * *

By now you are probably riding the train of thought which ran through this article. So I will leave you to your own musically impelled memories.



THE LEADING FIGURE IN THE INDUSTRY
LEADS THE INDUSTRY IN
ACADEMY AWARDS!



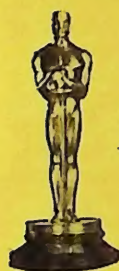
The Academy Award  For The Best Picture
Darryl F. Zanuck's PRODUCTION of
GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT



The Academy Award For
The Best Direction by
ELIA KAZAN
for "Gentleman's Agreement"



The Academy Award For
The Best Scoring of a
Musical Picture
ALFRED NEWMAN
for "Mother Wore Tights"



The Academy Award For
The Best Performance By
An Actress in a Supporting Role
CELESTE HOLM
in "Gentleman's Agreement"

The Academy Award For
The Best Original
Motion Picture Story
VALENTINE DAVIES
for "Miracle on 34th Street"



The Academy Award For
The Best Performance by an
Actor in a Supporting Role
EDMUND GWENN
in "Miracle on 34th Street"

The Academy Award For
The Best Written Screen play
GEORGE SEATON
for "Miracle on 34th Street"



20th CENTURY-FOX *Salutes* THESE HONORED ACHIEVEMENTS!

Short Shows Big In United States

(Continued from Page 1)

throughout that country are adopting similar programs. With RKO, the one hour comedy show consisting of four short subjects is offered at all matinees.

Harry Michalson, RKO Radio short subject sales manager, in hailing the short subject package show as a progressive note, states that his company is fully prepared to offer extensive range of one and two reel subjects covering a wide variety.

One of the pioneers in this movement is the Laffmovie group which started in Times Square during 1944 and has now expanded to Boston and Baltimore. Its success is such that a nationwide chain is said to be planned. A number of other New York theatres offer programs consisting entirely of short subjects, including Brandt Theatres who have used this plan at the Republic Theatre off and on for the past year, with considerable success. In the latter case, a four-hour show entirely composed of short subjects is given at admissions comparable to those asked by adjacent theatres offering a regular feature policy.

The Sunset Theatre in Los Angeles is now presenting its 14th edition of "Laff Jamboree" and the Leon Errol and Edgar Kennedy comedies produced by RKO Radio have been represented in every one of the editions.

"With RKO's expanding scope in short subject production, we welcome this new trend and will continue the same high quality which has assured our product of a steady market," concluded Mr. Michalson.

Pioneer Films Has French 'Paradise'

"Children of Paradise," French epic owned by Sir Alexander Korda which caused a controversy in Quebec last year, is being distributed in Canada by Pioneer Films, which is owned by Oscar Hanson. Described as a French "Gone With the Wind" because of its great crowd scenes, it is doing powerful business in its opening engagement at the Paradise, Vancouver. "Children of Paradise" was made during the German occupation and was shown in New York when the war was over. It did business in the USA and will likely repeat it here.

At present it is banned in Quebec.

Pioneer Films reports record business with its reissue of "Birth of a Baby," which is crowding the Lincoln, St. Catharines, Ontario.

Harmon, Fitz Explain Co-operative Plan

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present at the conference.

Harmon stated that the industry recognized the importance of the Canadian market and desires to co-operate for the mutual benefit of both Canada and the industry. This co-operation has already taken concrete shape in plans to use more Canadian news shots, scenic background, studios, and other facilities in current film production, Harmon explained.

Thirty-one Canadian shots have appeared in United States newsreels in February and March of this year as against 10 in the same months of 1947, and three excellent short subjects — "Calgary Stampede," "Snow Capers" and "Big Game Angling" — have been filmed. A new feature picture "The Emperor Waltz," starring Bing Crosby, embodies the sequences shot in the Canadian Rockies at a cost of \$750,000. Recently locations in Canada have been found for two producers who need background for a special type of gold mining and an alpine-type village. Other locations and existing studio facilities are being studied in connection with an extensive list of Canadian stories which are considered suitable for film treatment.

One of the purposes of the discussion in Ottawa was to establish effective and continuing liaison with Canadian sources of information. Catalogs are being prepared listing all the stock shots and various scenic sequences available in the library of the National Film Board and other Canadian producers, with the intention of incorporating them in appropriate Hollywood productions.

Special developments include the provision of Canadian news to a USA television program which has a weekly audience of one million people, and the addition of an educational commentary on Canada to a picture which had already been completed with a Canadian background.

An important by-product of this display of Canadian film material in the USA was emphasized by Fitzgibbons. He pointed out that it should be of immediate and material assistance to the tourist industry and thus contribute to Canada's vitally important supply of USA dollars.

Harmon added special tribute to the splendid co-operation of the Dominion Government departments and private business men, who have contributed great-

ly to the development of a program of mutual co-operation from which so much could be expected in the way of practical results.

Actively supporting the work of the Canadian Co-operation Project are Donald Henshaw and his associates of the MacLaren Advertising Agency, Canada, Mr. and Mrs. Blake Owensmith, who are handling the Hollywood studio contacts, and Taylor Mills of the International Division of the MPAA in New York. This triangle set-up between Hollywood, Canada and New York makes possible immediate service to producers of motion picture shorts and features incorporating Canadian background material.

Present at the luncheon meeting in Ottawa last week were the following representatives of the Canadian Government:

Department of Trade and Commerce

Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister.
Max MacKenzie, Deputy Minister.
Leo Dolan, Director, Dominion Government Travel Bureau.
Bert Butler, Director of Public Relations.

Department of Finance

Hon. Douglas Abbott, Minister.
Dr. Clark, Deputy Minister.
Kenneth Taylor, Emergency Import Control.
Ralph McKay, Public Relations Officer.

Department of External Affairs

L. B. Pearson, Under Secretary.
Saul Rae, Public Relations Officer.

Bank of Canada

Graham Towers, Governor.
Herbert Richardson, Deputy Secretary.
Royd Beamish.

Foreign Exchange Control Board

Louis Rasminsky.

Department of National Revenue

Hon. Mr. McCann, Minister.
Ross McLean, Government Film Commissioner.

Accompanying the American Ambassador, Hon. Ray Atherton, was Capt. Jack Rabey, Naval Attache, American Embassy, Ottawa.

Fisher, Hunt in NY

Frank Fisher, general manager of Eagle-Lion Films of Canada, and Harvey Hunt of Odeon Theatres, were in New York for a meeting with J. Arthur Rank last week.



PAUL COURTNEY

Chief Stewart of Variety Club in its new quarters at the Prince George Hotel.

Two More Theatres Destroyed By Fire

Two more theatres were destroyed by fire recently in what is turning out to be Canada's worst year for theatre conflagrations.

The only theatre in Lewisville, NB, the 362-seat Star, owned by Star Amusements Limited, was completely destroyed in a blaze that did \$50,000 damage. An overheated furnace is believed to have been the cause.

The interior of the 250-seat Ritz Theatre in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, was completely gutted in a fire that did \$19,000 worth of damage. Quick work by firemen kept the blaze from spreading to the Ritz Hotel, also contained in the building. The theatre is leased by C. M. Hoar from William Geatros. Cause of the fire could not be ascertained.

'Radio Cavalcade'

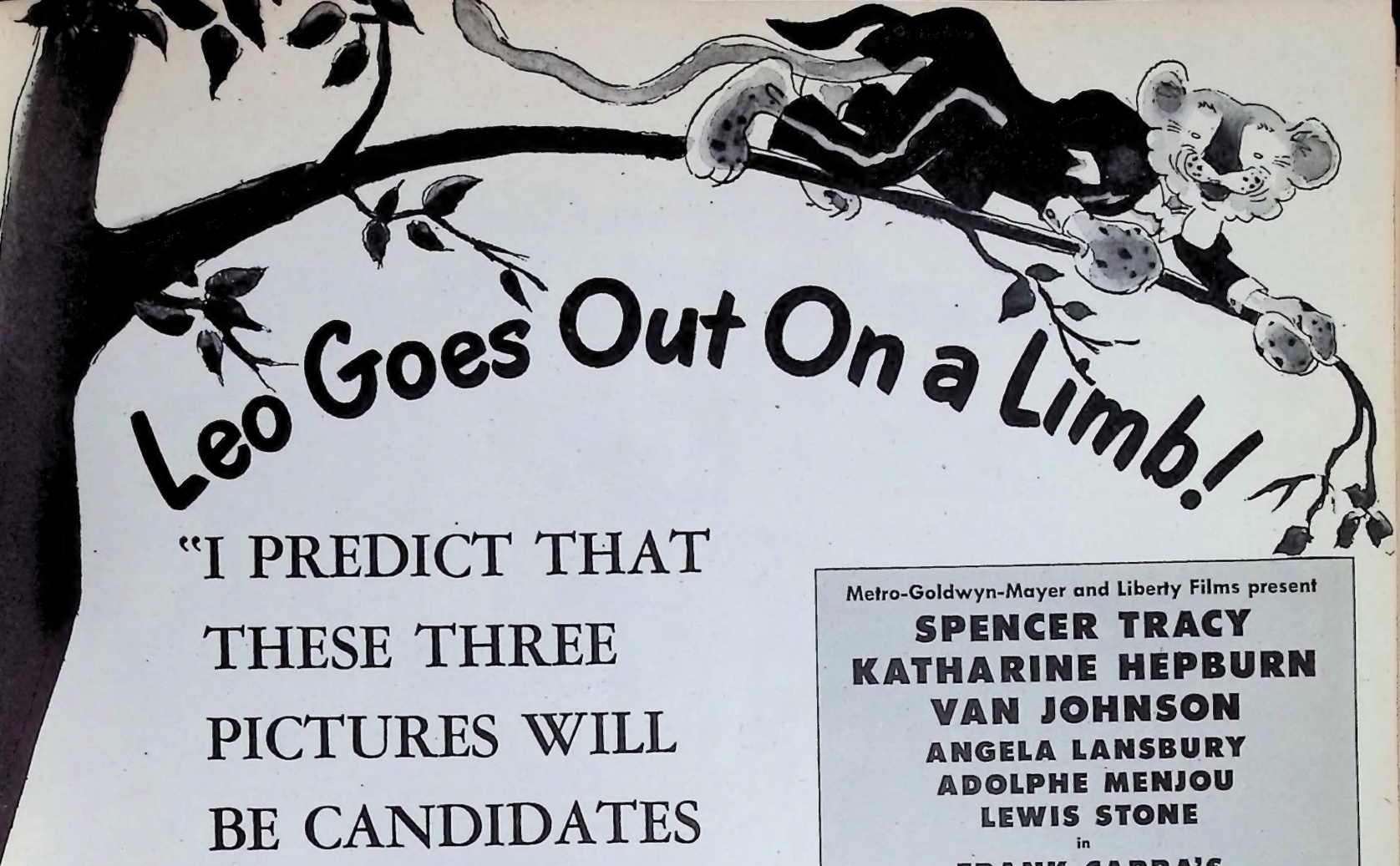
Columbia Pictures in association with Jerrold T. Brandt will bring to the screen the story of the growth of radio in a film titled "Radio Cavalcade."

Third British Award Names John Mills

John Mills, J. Arthur Rank Organization star, was named Britain's No. 1 film actor, succeeding James Mason, in the third British national film awards.

Almost three million movie fans registered their votes in the poll conducted by the London Daily Mail. Best actor and actress and best film of the previous year are selected.

Margaret Lockwood, also a J. Arthur Rank star, won the feminine award and "The Courtneys of Curzon Street" was named the best film.



Leo Goes Out On a Limb!

"I PREDICT THAT
THESE THREE
PICTURES WILL
BE CANDIDATES
FOR THE 'TEN BEST'
OF 1948!"

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and Liberty Films present

**SPENCER TRACY
KATHARINE HEPBURN
VAN JOHNSON
ANGELA LANSBURY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
LEWIS STONE**

in

FRANK CAPRA'S

"STATE OF THE UNION"

Based on the Play by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse
Screen Play by Anthony Veiller and Myles Connolly

Associate Producer Anthony Veiller

Produced and Directed by **FRANK CAPRA**

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

M-G-M presents

**CLARK GABLE • LANA TURNER
ANNE BAXTER • JOHN HODIAK**

in

"HOMECOMING"

RAY COLLINS • GLADYS COOPER • CAMERON MITCHELL

A MERVYN LE ROY PRODUCTION

Original Story by Sidney Kingsley • Adaptation by Jan Lustig

Screen Play by Paul Osborn

Directed by MERVYN LE ROY

Produced by SIDNEY FRANKLIN

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

M-G-M presents

IRVING BERLIN'S

"EASTER PARADE"

Starring

**JUDY GARLAND • FRED ASTAIRE
PETER LAWFORD
ANN MILLER**

Color by **TECHNICOLOR**

Lyrics and Music by **IRVING BERLIN**

Musical Numbers Directed by **ROBERT ALTON**

Directed by **CHARLES WALTERS**

Produced by **ARTHUR FREED**

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

Remember what we say here! And remember that it is still early in the year and there are many other M-G-M Big Ones to come! That's why there's a new industry slogan:

"M★G★M GREAT IN '48"

You can easily gross \$40 a day
WITH A *Manley* POPCORN MACHINE



Want a business that's booming all the time? Where the profits are high and the hours short? Well, then, you'll be interested in popcorn! Operators

of Manley Popcorn Machines are reporting **BIG EARNINGS** everywhere! One man in a small town grossed \$250 a week. Another has

earned \$100,000 in six years and still another reports that he paid for his Manley Machine out of his first month's earnings. Yes, there's **BIG MONEY** in popcorn and **YOU** can make it... if you're interested.

Everybody loves popcorn! If you have a good busy location where people congregate or pass by, set up one of these big, sparkling-bright Manley Machines and serve hot, fresh and delicious Manley Popcorn in colorful, red and white candy-striped Manley Bags and Boxes and you can't miss. Send the coupon below and get all the facts about the popcorn business in our new booklet, "How to Make Big Profits From Popcorn"

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR POPCORN THAT IS...



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"THE BIGGEST NAME IN POPCORN!"

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3 M's THAT MEAN

MONEY FOR YOU

MACHINES The most important "M"—the Manley Popcorn Machine combines sparkling beauty and eye appeal with mechanical perfection, trouble-free operation and large capacity. Many exclusive features. Designed to make the handling of crowds easy... you'll make more money with Manley.

MERCHANDISE It takes the best merchandise to win the largest profits. Manley Popcorn is quality controlled—grown to meet high company standards. Pop it in Manley Popcorn Seasoning and use only Manley's Popcorn Salt. Serve in a Manley Carton or Bag and you'll make more money with Manley.

METHODS Manley has compiled a booklet explaining how to operate a successful popcorn business and included many proven, sales-building practices accumulated during twenty-five years of acknowledged leadership. Ask for free copy. Use the handy coupon and make more money with Manley.

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Without obligation please send me a copy of your booklet "HOW TO MAKE BIG PROFITS FROM POPCORN."

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